

(c) and (d). To meet the situation Air India is also continuously exploring the possibility of expanding its Code-Share operations in co-operation with European, American and South East Asian Carriers. Such Code-Share/Joint Venture arrangements are already operative with Scandinavian Airline System, United Airlines, Kuwait Airlines, Malaysian Airlines, Gulf Air and Air Mauritius.

#### **Accident of Aircraft of Bokaro Steel Plant**

3982. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of aircrafts belonging to Bokaro Steel Plant damaged during 1995 and 1996, so far;

(b) the reasons for each of the accidents alongwith the extent of loss suffered in each case during the above period;

(c) the details of the enquiries conducted in this regard and the action taken against the persons found guilty; and

(d) the steps taken to stop recurrence of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b). Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) have only one aircraft. During the years 1995 and 1996 it was involved in only one ground incident and got damaged. This ground incident took place in 1996.

This incident took place while checking of brake effectiveness on ground. Actual cost of repair except the inspection charges of the engine is Rs. 22,19,641/-. The charges for inspection of engine shall be available after inspection by overhauling agency i.e. M/s. Pratt and Whitney, Canada. As the Aircrafts is insured, necessary claim has been lodged with the insurance company.

(c) Enquiry has been conducted by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). The concerned engineer has been warned to be more careful in future and has been advised not to taxi the Aircraft in future.

(d) The concerned engineer has been directed by BSL not to taxi the Aircraft to avoid recurrence in future.

#### **Delay in Introduction of passenger Trains**

3983. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for delay to introduce passenger trains from Kharagpur to Bardhaman and Sealdah, Naihati to Howrah, Bandel to Sealdah, Purulia to Bardhaman and Chittaranjan to Bardhaman/Asansol inspite of availability of existing infrastructure;

(b) whether the marginal investment has been made for creation of additional infrastructure in order to mitigate commuters' hardship in course of transshipment en-route; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Introduction of passenger services in the Kharagpur-Sealdah/Bardhaman section is presently not feasible as the route via Andul link is not fit for passenger train operations. Introduction of services from Naihati to Howrah via Bandel involves the problem of reversals at Bandel. The Howrah bound passengers of Naihati will have to avail changeover at Bandel. Bandel is already connected with Sealdah by 4 pairs of trains. Further, Sealdah bound passenger of Bandel can avail of changeover at Naihati. Regarding passenger services between Purulia-Bardhaman convenient connecting changeover services are available at Asansol. Direct service between Purulia and Bardhaman is not feasible, at present, due to operational and resource constraints including non-availability of maintenance facilities at Purulia. Chittaranjan-Asansol section is, at present served by Diesel push-pull and other services in addition to direct train services connecting Chittaranjan and Bardhaman.

(b) and (c). For introduction of EMU services between Kharagpur and Sealdah, a reconnaissance type engg. cum traffic survey has been taken up and investments as found feasible and justified can be made only after the survey is completed.

[Translation]

#### **Financial Assistance to Municipal Bodies**

3984. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to financial assistance not being provided to the municipal bodies of Agra and Fatehpur Sikri as per their demand, the tourists, other citizens and institutions have complained of cleanliness, poor amenities around tourists spots and at places where tourists stay;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has also made some recommendation and expressed concern in this regard while dealing with public interest petitions;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any time bound remedial action plan is under the consideration of the Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism does not provide financial assistance to Municipal bodies for maintenance of

cleanliness and other maintenance. However, the financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for tourism infrastructure projects based on their merits, inter se priority and availability of funds.

(c) to (f). The information is being collected from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and the Central Pollution Control Board.

[English]

#### **Entrance of persons in the Cabin Holding Reservation-cum-Journey Tickets**

3985. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Attendant in the 1st Class compartment can force the family of four in a cabin holding Reservation-cum-Journey Tickets to take any number of persons in the cabin; and

(b) if so, the number of persons the Attendant can make sit in the cabin/coupe in the day time and at the night time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). In a four berths cabin in a First Class Coach, during the night hours i.e., 2100 to 0600 hours, four passengers having the reserved accommodation are permitted to travel. During the day time, six passengers are permitted to travel. Two persons are permitted in a two-berth coupe during night hours and three during day time.

#### **Creation of Separate Ministry for Pilgrim Affairs**

3986. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a public demand to create a separate Ministry for pilgrim affairs to look after the welfare of the devotees and maintenance of the sacred atmosphere, beauty and facilities at the holy sites;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also aware of the public demand to demarcate pilgrimage from tourism as the pilgrims trekked to inaccessible places in the face of implement whether conditions should not be equated with tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) No Sir, the Department of Tourism, Government of India is not aware of such a public demand.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

#### **Survey Regarding Traffic Potential of Railway Line**

3987. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted on the daily traffic potential on each of the eight sections of railway lines at Kanpur junction so as to introduce rapid transport system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to introduce rapid transport system at least between Kanpur-Lucknow, Kanpur-Fatehpur and Kanpur-Ghatampur; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Provision of additional bottle of Mineral Water**

3988. SHRI RUP CHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide additional bottle of mineral water to the passengers of Rajdhani Express;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have justified that one bottle of water is sufficient for the entire journey;

(d) if so, whether the water coolers of the coaches are proposed to be installed again; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. Only one bottle of 1000 ml. water is admissible to each passenger and additional water bottle is given on payment. Mineral water bottles are made available for sale at various stations enroute and on trains.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Progress in Doubling work of Delhi-Gwalior Railway Line**

3989. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in respect of doubling of Delhi-Agra-Dholpur-Murena-Gwalior Railway line;